

Morning



Evening

VOL. 27-NO. 8416

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AN AFTERTHOUGHT.

"I was in the garden chatting
And the minnows—
And the butterflies—
With my cypresses—
I still can see her fingers
With rapture in my fingers
To view her lips a-pout.
A happy sunbeam glancing
Upon a wayward curl
Said, 'I am a fool,'
And turned my brain a-whirl
And when I looked up shyly,
But soon kiss her, say,
Behind the apple tree.
Strange that some mole forever
Shows me the rays of life:
Though often I have never
Yet won so sweet a kiss;
Alas! the act I blundered
I could not choose but wonder.
Had she been kissed before?"

—Canto and Bells.

JACK TORREY'S HANDWRITING.

By G. S. ADAMS.

Written for the Oregonian.

The feud between the Torreys and the Hinckleys was of such ancient date that the oldest inhabitant could tell little of nothing of its origin. Yet it had thrived through successive generations, and still maintained a healthful degree of bitterness. It was, after a fashion, the peculiar property of the little southern village of Polkville, into most of the affairs and gossip of which it entered as a more or less prominent factor. The inhabitants of the place were divided into two factions, the one espousing the cause of the Torreys and the other standing by the colors of the Hinckleys. This was partisanship, however, for in all other respects the people of Polkville were as united and harmonious as the average of humanity. But the feud was their pet. They fostered it, nourished it and believed in it. Consequently there was a sense of injury and a feeling of antagonism throughout Polkville when it was known that the Jack Torrey was paying secret but assiduous visits to pretty Susie Hinckley. To be sure, Jack was generally conceded to be the most likely member of his family, while Susie's beauty and goodness were known for miles around; but tradition must be respected, and for these two young upstarts to fall in love with each other was an infraction of the proprieties not to be tolerated.

So Jack found the cold shoulder of many of his friends turned toward him, while Susie did not spare abundant evidence of disapprobation.

How the two families directly involved took the matter shall be seen.

Jack's father and mother had been dead for some years, and Jack lived in the old homestead with the family of his uncle, whose name was Nathan Torrey. Jack and his uncle were in the library one summer evening, holding an animated discussion.

"Do you think I am going to allow you to disgrace us all by marrying a Hinckley?" demanded Nathan Torrey.

"Just drop that word 'allow,' uncle, and we can talk together. You mustn't assume that I am going to dictate to me."

"For God's sake, it is I who shall exercise it. I forgive you ever speaking to that Hinckley."

"And I forbid your speaking of Susie Hinckley in any other than respectful terms!" Jack spoke with heat and decision.

He had a well knit frame, a manly face and bright honest eyes, from which just now dark glances shot. He was walking about the room.

His uncle whose sharp features wore a look of angry determination, was seated in an armchair. He glanced wistfully at the young man.

"Nothing can be more ridiculous," continued Jack, "than to keep up this absurd quarrel forever. What is there to fight about?"

"What is there to fight about, you young renegade? If your poor father could hear you ask that question he would rise up out of his grave."

"Nonsense; my father was against the Hinckley because his father had some trouble with them. But it doesn't follow that all future generations are in duty bound to keep up the fight."

"Yes, it does."

"Besides, I think we have been in the wrong."

"What do you mean?" demanded Nathan Torrey in a tone of rage and with a look of horror.

"I mean that I have been looking over some old papers, and have come to the conclusion that my grandfather obtained an unjust advantage over the Hinckleys years ago."

"You impudent dog, how dare you say that?"

"Now don't try to bully me, uncle. We have prospered, and the Hinckleys haven't. You will admit that."

"Of course I will. Curse them, they don't deserve to prosper. They shan't prosper if I can help it."

"I don't doubt your disposition to do them all the injury you can, but it is outlandish to keep the old feud boiling, and for one should be glad to see the end of it."

"I told you, you would, you moonstruck blighted—"

"And, to cut a long matter short, I am going to marry Susie Hinckley if she will have me."

"Oh, you poorton! Where is your spirit? Where is your family pride?"

Nathan Torrey rose and faced the room in a paroxysm of rage.

"I caught that horse up," he added.

"Perhaps you had better try it," suggested Jack. His tone was quiet, but there was a light in his eyes and a movement about his mouth that an acute physician would have regarded as dangerous.

But Nathan Torrey was never known to pay the least heed to a danger-signal.

"So you would marry that designing, low-minded representative of a disreputable family, would you?" he hissed, rushing at Jack, seizing him by the throat and giving him a stinging blow on the side of the face.

Now Jack would not have been a Torrey had he heard the insult to his sweetheart and received the blow in peaceful submissiveness. So be it his uncle had a right-handed square in the forehead.

The lad staggered back, surprised and dazed—but whose wrath had found partial vent, stood for a moment astir at what he had done, then pulled his wits together and said:

"I beg your pardon, uncle, but you ought to have known better to strike me. If I stay here I am afraid we will fight. So I'll go."

He rushed from the room and left the house.

It was a bright moonlight night, full of peace and quiet. Jack took a path across a hill, and, dropping into a slow walk, endeavored to calm his perturbed state of mind.

He found his uncle in an intransigent and obstinate mood, his hands clenched, his teeth set, his eyes fixed on the ground, his head bent low, his brows drawn together in a scowl.

Besides, Nathan Torrey had absolute control of the property, and it was in his power to throw Jack on the world poor and without a home should the latter persist in his intention to marry Susie Hinckley.

Jack was reflecting, bitter on the difficulties that surrounded him, when a rustling in the shrubbery caused him to look up.

Susie herself stood before him.

"Ah, my sweet girl!" exclaimed Jack,

taking her by the hand and drawing her closer to him.

"I saw you coming across the fields, in the moonlight, and thought I would run out and talk to you," said Susie. "Are you still here?"

"'Glad!' There was more of protestation in Jack's tone than he could have put into the most eloquent words. For a moment he was supremely happy. Then the former bitter train of thought returned.

"I can't understand why fate should be so unkind to us, Susie," he said. "My uncle and I have just had an awful row; we came to blows."

"Jack! You struck each other! How dreadful!"

"Dreadful or not, the thing has been done and can't be undone. It makes matters worse than ever, and you and I must cut loose from the old folks if we ever expect to find happiness in this world."

Susie returned the pressure of his hand, and sighed convulsively.

"It's wicked and unmerciful," continued Jack, in energetic tones, "that this old feud should be allowed to stand between us. For us to suffer for the bickering and quarrels of our ancestors is both cruel and unjust."

"Let us do them all. I am young and strong, and willing to face the world!"

"You can begin by facing me!"

This interruption came in a harsh, impulsive tone. Susie and Jack sprang to their feet.

Dorman Hinckley, Susie's brother, stood close by them, and his horse, which he had just dismounted, was cropping the grass near by. The soft turf had rendered the approach of footsteps inaudible.

"Ah, brother! for Hinckley?" exclaimed Jack. "Well, I am ready to face you or anybody else."

"I have heard of you," said Susie.

"I am a foolish piece of work," said Mr. Briggs coolly, "and well calculated to receive even the eye of an expert. But what you have relied on for your strength is your fatal weakness. I see I must come to the point at once. I will first introduce Mr. Van Alstyne, cashier of the —— bank."

A well dressed, gentlemanly appearing man stepped forward.

"Mr. Van Alstyne, you were acquainted with our friend Jack Torrey when he was living, I believe."

"I have heard of him."

"Were you familiar with his handwriting?"

"Perfectly. He deposited in our bank, and I have seen his signature scores of times."

"Mr. Torrey, will you exhibit the will which you intend for probate?"

"Certainly," said Nathan Torrey, in a confident tone, unfolding the document and spreading it out before the cashier.

"Now, Mr. Van Alstyne," said Lawyer Briggs, "show the signature to this will to compare it to that of the late Jack Torrey."

"There is not the slightest resemblance between them," replied the cashier, promptly.

"Hey, what's that?" exclaimed Nathan Torrey.

"It's a forged will," said Susie.

"'Fool! You talk such rot to me. There's no such thing as an honorable hair in the head of a Torrey. Get off from these premises!"

"I'll not go until I have had my say. Let us have a sensible talk about this wretched old feud. Did it ever strike you—"

"Did it ever strike you?" mocked Dorman Hinckley, sweeping his riding whip with a sharp blow across Jack's cheek.

Jack seized the whip, and by a quick wrench obtained possession of it. He wrote a stiff crumpled back-hand."

Nathan Torrey looked bewildered. But he recovered himself and said:

"Very well, then, you are proving too much. If this will is a forgery, the other will is too, for the signatures on both are alike."

"Gentle, sir," said Lawyer Briggs. "The will will be made a year and a half ago."

"Remember, sir, I am a soldier," said Susie.

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W. L. DOUGLAS S3 SHOE

CORNER STONE LAID.

Imposing Ceremonies at the New First Presbyterian Church.

Address by the Rev. Warren H. Landen—Remarks by Rev. H. W. Garrett—Articles Deposited in the Box.

Yesterday morning the building committee of the First Presbyterian church held a meeting and decided to erect the edifice according to the original plans, namely: of stone. The foundation, which is finished, admitted of four styles of superstructure, viz.: wood, brick, brick and stone, and stone. The latter is by far the most expensive, particularly as the stone, which is quarried in Bellingham bay, must pay transportation from the quarry to Tacoma by boat and thence by rail to Portland. It is of the same quality as the stone of which the custom house and postoffice is built, but somewhat lighter color. After due consideration it was decided to build in the old way, the most durable, though the other styles are more attractive. The building will cost about \$100,000. The architect is an old debt, and for the north half of the block bounded by Tenth, Eleventh, Morrison and Alder streets, there remained from the proceeds of the sale of the property at Third and Washington about \$15,000. There has been subscribed to the fund for building the new church, \$25,100, and besides this, \$10,000 has been pledged, making a total of \$71,100 toward paying for the new structure. The architect, Mr. W. E. McCaw, was instructed to advertise for bids at his earliest convenience, and the committee hopes to have the building included before fall rains begin.

The corner stone of the edifice was laid yesterday afternoon with imposing ceremonies. The weather was fine, and in the crowd which assembled to witness them, ladies were largely in the majority. The Rev. D. O. Gormley, pastor of the First Presbyterian church, of East Portland, presided. He called the assemblage to order and invoked the blessing of God upon the work they were about to undertake. After a hymn by the choir, the Rev. W. O. Forbes, pastor of the First Presbyterian church of Albion, read a scriptural lesson from the second chapter of Ephesians. The Rev. W. S. Holt followed with a prayer.

Almighty God, who in thy wisdom hast laid the foundations of the earth, who by whom the heavens were made, we thank thee that just placed upon the earth the Ark of thy promises, the name of thy holy name. For thou only art God, and thou art the Lord, and there is none else. That has been our constant motto, and when the mountains were brought forth, or when the hills formed the earth and the world, even from everlasting to everlasting, it was well that the corner stone

should be laid by the hand of man. Although they are not worshipped by men's hands as though that had need of anything, and although we have been taught not to covet the much that is given us, yet we have been taught that thou art pleased to use human hands in thy service to bless the structures which they have for thy glory. For this reason, therefore, we pray that thou will accept our service in the erection of the building which we are about to begin. Its walls shall rise before thee, and thy grace to us.

Then we will go to thy temple, thy temple, to thy spiritual temple, fully ransomed together, may it be a holy building to the praise of thy grace, for Jesus sake. Amen.

THE ADDRESS.

Rev. Warren H. Landen, pastor of Calvary Presbyterian church, then spoke as follows:

It is well to pause at this point in erecting this building and hold a religious service. Let the noise of hammer and trowel cease for a time while divine service is offered. This is the time for this to be no ordinary business. This is to be the house of God; it is to be a house of prayer. When we have done this, then we may proceed. The prophet said: "He shall bring forth the headstone thereof with shouting, crying, grace, grace, unto it." Let us do this. Let us do this, and then by day it will become a complete and beautiful temple of God. Then there will be joyful dedicatory services. The organ will put forth its notes of praise and God's name will be glorified. If the headstone is to be brought forward, let us do it with some ceremony. Let us do it well, and let us do it with the word of God.

We do not know how long this ceremony of laying the corner stone has been observed. There are traditions of it in the old church. In the Psalms we find a prophetic reference to Christ, which reads: "The stone which the builders rejected is become the headstone of the corner." This is several times quoted in the New Testament. Seven hundred years ago, in the year 1223, the Pope said:

"Therefore thus saith the Lord God, 'Behold, I will in Zion for a foundation a stone, a tried stone. We know that for many ages and among many people the corner stone has been counted the stone of reproach; but in this people is found one peculiarly holy stone in a temple, and that is the cornerstone on the whole edifice. We do not consider the stone of reproach, but any stone sacred except that it contains records and other tokens of the works of God. Then there will be joyful dedicatory services. The organ will put forth its notes of praise and God's name will be glorified.'

These articles were placed in a copper box and the lid soldered on. Then the copper box was placed within a lead box, and this lid soldered on; so there is little danger that damage will be done to the records; but yesterday, when I laid this corner stone, I did not like to leave this corner stone rough.

REMARKS BY REV. H. W. CORBETT.

Ex-Senator H. W. Corbett, chairman of the building committee, then spoke as follows:

On the 22d of June, 1865, nearly twenty-four years since, the congregation of the First Presbyterian church of East Portland, and the city of East Portland, to lay the corner stone of the First Presbyterian church, in this city, to be the cornerstone of the temple of God.

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